

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

☐ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing

OR

☐ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number 44018-0001

First Named Inventor

INGRAHAM

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

BASE SIGN WITH INTEGRAL SIGNAGE AND METHOD FOR  
ITS FABRICATION

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto

OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: ☒ Customer Number or Bar Code Label ☐ OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name **Robert M. Schwartz, Esq.**  
**RUDEN, McCLOSKEY, SMITH, SCHUSTER & RUSSELL, P.A.**

Address **200 East Broward Boulevard**

City **Fort Lauderdale** State **Florida** ZIP **33301**

Country **USA** Telephone **(954) 527-6252** Fax **(954) 333-4252**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name **INGRAHAM** Family Name **Larry G.**  
(first and middle [if any]) or Surname

Inventor's Signature  Date **June 6, 2001**

Residence: City **Fostoria** State **Ohio** Country **USA** Citizenship **USA**

**1703 N. Union Street**

Mailing Address

City **Fostoria** State **Ohio** ZIP **44830** Country **USA**

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Family Name or Surname

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0551-0035  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	INGRAHAM
Title	BASE SIGN WITH INTEGRAL SIGNAGE AND METHOD...
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	44018-0001

I hereby appoint:

- ☐ Practitioners at Customer Number  → Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
Label here
- ☒ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number
Robert M. Schwartz	29,854

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

- ☐ The above-mentioned Customer Number.  
OR  
☐ Practitioners at Customer Number  → Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
Label here
- OR

☐ Firm or  
Individual Name

Address

Address

City

State

Zip

Country

Telephone

Fax

I am the:

- ☒ Applicant/Inventor.
- ☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/IB/96).

**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**

Name

Larry G. Ingraham

Signature

Date

June 6, 2001

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ Total of \_\_\_\_\_ forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER

OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

Washington, D.C. 20231

AUGUST 10, 2000

PTAS

ROBERT M. SCHWARTZ, P.A.  
ROBERT M. SCHWARTZ  
169 E. FLAGLER ST.  
SUITE 1125  
MIAMI, FL 33131-1205



\*101385747A\*

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 06/09/2000

REEL/FRAME: 010858/0261  
NUMBER OF PAGES: 4

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

INGRAHAM, LARRY G.

DOC DATE: 06/07/2000

ASSIGNEE:

ROPPE CORPORATION  
1602 N. UNION STREET  
FOSTORIA, OHIO 44830-1158

SERIAL NUMBER: 60210650  
PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE:  
ISSUE DATE:

ANTIONE ROYALL, EXAMINER  
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

FORM PTO-1619A  
Expires 06/30/99  
OMB 0651-0027

06-21-2000

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office  
**PATENT**



101385747

**RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET  
PATENTS ONLY**

TO: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original document(s) or copy(ies).

**Submission Type**

- ☒ New
- ☐ Resubmission (Non-Recordation)  
Document ID#
- ☐ Correction of PTO Error  
Reel #  Frame #
- ☐ Corrective Document  
Reel #  Frame #

**Conveyance Type**

- ☒ Assignment ☐ Security Agreement
- ☐ License ☐ Change of Name
- ☐ Merger ☐ Other
- U.S. Government**  
(For Use ONLY by U.S. Government Agencies)
- ☐ Departmental File ☐ Secret File

**Conveying Party(ies)**

☐ Mark if additional names of conveying parties attached

Name (line 1) INGRAHAM, Larry G.

Execution Date  
Month Day Year  
6/7/00

Name (line 2)

**Second Party**

Name (line 1)

Name (line 2)

Execution Date  
Month Day Year

60210650

**Receiving Party**

☐ Mark if additional names of receiving parties attached

Name (line 1) Roppe Corporation

Name (line 2)

Address (line 1) 1602 N. Union Street

Address (line 2)

Address (line 3) Fostoria

City

Ohio

State/Country

44830-1158

Zip Code

☐ If document to be recorded is an assignment and the receiving party is not domiciled in the United States, an appointment of a domestic representative is attached. (Designation must be a separate document from Assignment.)

**Domestic Representative Name and Address**

Enter for the first Receiving Party only.

Name

Address (line 1)

Address (line 2)

Address (line 3)

Address (line 4)

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

06/16/2000 MMARMDL 00000047 60210650

02 FC:581

40.00 DP

Public burden reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately 30 minutes per Cover Sheet to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document and gathering the data needed to complete the Cover Sheet. Send comments regarding this burden estimate to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Chief Information Officer, Washington, D.C. 20231 and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0651-0027), Washington, D.C. 20503. See OMB Information Collection Budget Package 0651-0027, Patent and Trademark Assignment Practice. DO NOT SEND REQUESTS TO RECORD ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS.

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet(s) information to:  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box Assignments, Washington, D.C. 20231

**Correspondent Name and Address**

Area Code and Telephone Number **305-373-7600**

Name **Robert M. Schwartz**

Address (line 1) **Robert M. Schwartz, P.A.**

Address (line 2) **169 E. Flagler Street**

Address (line 3) **Suite 1125**

Address (line 4) **Miami FL 33131-1205**

**Pages**

Enter the total number of pages of the attached conveyance document including any attachments.

# **2**

**Application Number(s) or Patent Number(s)**

☐ Mark if additional numbers attached

Enter either the Patent Application Number or the Patent Number (DO NOT ENTER BOTH numbers for the same property).

Patent Application Number(s)

Patent Number(s)


If this document is being filed together with a new Patent Application, enter the date the patent application was signed by the first named executing inventor.

Month Day Year  
**6 9 2000**

**Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)**

Enter PCT application number  
only if a U.S. Application Number  
has not been assigned.

PCT  PCT  PCT   
PCT  PCT  PCT

**Number of Properties**

Enter the total number of properties involved.

# **1**

**Fee Amount**

Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41): \$ **40.00**

Method of Payment:  
Deposit Account

Enclosed ☒ Deposit Account ☐

(Enter for payment by deposit account or if additional fees can be charged to the account.)

Deposit Account Number:

# **19-0734**

Authorization to charge additional fees:

Yes ☒ No ☐

**Statement and Signature**

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.

Robert M. Schwartz  
Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

**6/9/2000**

P A T E N T   A S S I G N M E N T

WHEREAS, LARRY G. INGRAHAM, of 1703 N. Union Street, Fostoria, Ohio 44830, the named inventor of Baseboard With Integral Sign And Method For Its Fabrication, for which a Provisional Patent application was executed on the date of execution of this assignment;

ROPPE CORPORATION, an Ohio Corporation, doing business at 1602 N. Union Street, Fostoria, Ohio 44830-1158, is desirous of acquiring the entire interest in said invention, and in any and all Letters Patent of the United States that may be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is known that for and in consideration of Ten and No/100 (\$10.00) Dollars and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency whereof are hereby acknowledged, I, LARRY G. INGRAHAM, have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto ROPPE CORPORATION, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, the full and exclusive right to the said invention as fully set forth and described in the above-mentioned application, and to said application and any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted therefor, and any and all reissues of said Letters Patent, the same to be held and enjoyed by ROPPE CORPORATION, its legal representatives, successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted or may be reissued or extended, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by me had this assignment and sale not been made.

AND I hereby authorize the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patent of the United States on said invention or resulting from said Application and from any and

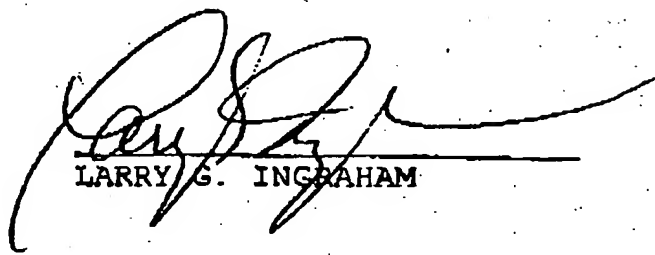


all divisions and continuations thereof to ROPPE CORPORATION,  
as the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in  
and to the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal  
this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2000.

In the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LARRY G. INGRAHAM